

U.S. Department of Justice

Immigration and Naturalization Service



OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS
425 Eye Street N.W.
ULLB, 3rd Floor
Washington, D.C. 20536



FILE:

LIN 00 059 53603

Office:

Nebraska Service Center

Date:

AUG 29 2000

IN RE: Petitioner:

Beneficiary:

ry:

APPLICATION: Petition for Alien Fiance(e) Pursuant to Section 101(a)(15)(K) of the Immigration and Nationality

Act, 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(K)

IN BEHALF OF PETITIONER:

Self-represented

Public Gopy

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision in your case. All documents have been returned to the office which originally decided your case. Any further inquiry must be made to that office.

If you believe the law was inappropriately applied or the analysis used in reaching the decision was inconsistent with the information provided or with precedent decisions, you may file a motion to reconsider. Such a motion must state the reasons for reconsideration and be supported by any pertinent precedent decisions. Any motion to reconsider must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reconsider, as required under 8 C.F.R. 103.5(a)(1)(i).

If you have new or additional information which you wish to have considered, you may file a motion to reopen. Such a motion must state the new facts to be proved at the reopened proceeding and be supported by affidavits or other documentary evidence. Any motion to reopen must be filed within 30 days of the decision that the motion seeks to reopen, except that failure to file before this period expires may be excused in the discretion of the Service where it is demonstrated that the delay was reasonable and beyond the control of the applicant or petitioner. <u>Id</u>.

Any motion must be filed with the office which originally decided your case along with a fee of \$110 as required under 8 C.F.R. 103.7.

Identifying data deleted to prevent clearly unwarranted invasion

FOR THE ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER,

Terrance M. O'Reilly, Director Administrative Appeals Office **DISCUSSION:** The nonimmigrant visa petition was denied by the Director, Nebraska Service Center, and is now before the Associate Commissioner for Examinations on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The petitioner, a native and citizen of Vietnam and a lawful permanent resident of the United States, seeks to classify the beneficiary, a native and citizen of Vietnam, as the fiance of a United States citizen pursuant to section 101(a)(15)(K) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(K).

The director denied the petition after determining that the petitioner had not established that she is a citizen of the United States. The director noted that there is no provision under section 101(a)(15)(K) of the Act for the filing of a Petition for Alien Fiance(e) by a lawful permanent resident.

On appeal, the petitioner states that she will soon be taking a U.S. citizenship test, and she would like to keep this petition to reduce the time she would have to wait after she becomes an American citizen.

Section 101(a)(15)(K) of the Act defines a nonimmigrant in this category as:

An alien who is the fiancee or fiance of a citizen of the United States and who seeks to enter the United States solely to conclude a valid marriage with the petitioner within ninety days after admission, and the minor children of such fiancee or fiance accompanying him or following to join him.

Section 214(d) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1184(d), states, in pertinent part, that a fiance(e) petition:

shall be approved only after satisfactory evidence is submitted by the petitioner to establish that the parties have previously met in person within 2 years before the date of filing the petition, have a bona fide intention to marry, and are legally able and actually willing to conclude a valid marriage in the United States within a period of ninety days after the alien's arrival, except that the Attorney General in his discretion may waive the requirement that the parties have previously met in person....

The petition was filed with the Service on December 22, 1999. The petitioner, however, is not a United States citizen as required by section 101(a)(15)(K) of the Act. Therefore, the petition cannot be approved.

The burden of proof in these proceedings rests solely with the petitioner. Section 291 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1361. The petitioner has not met that burden. Accordingly, the appeal will be dismissed. This decision, however, is without prejudice to the filing of a new petition (Form I-129F) once the petitioner becomes a United States citizen.

ORDER: The appeal is dismissed.